

I have been reading some papers that address how the media influences public issues and public policy. Today I read "Increasingly, the real world for most Americans is viewed through the lens of the news media. How the media frames public issues, however, is critical to the final resolution of public problems." (see below for source)

This paper went on to document studies that show that Americans form conceptual models of reality based in large part on what they see on TV news. Many times these models cause them to ignore or discount facts that don't fit their conceptual models.

I have been concerned about the issue of media ownership by a limited number of powerful corporations or individuals.

This paper increased my awareness of how powerful the media already is, and the necessity of broad and diverse and objective coverage of "news".

Please do not do anything that further consolidates ownership of broadcast media. Instead, do something to promote more diverse media.

I would also ask you to do more research before making a decision of this magnitude.

Thank you.

Source for one paper on the power of the media:
www.sscnet.ucla.edu/issr/ccc/new/papers/src_revised_paper_2000.htm